

CLEAN VERSION OF ALL REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPHS

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--This application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/435,883 entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PRESENTING ITEM INFORMATION USING A PORTABLE DATA TERMINAL" and that issued on March 13, 2001 as U.S. Patent No. 6,199,753, which is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/771,463 entitled "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PRESENTING ITEM INFORMATION USING A PORTABLE DATA", and that issued on November 9, 1999 as U.S. Patent No. 5,979,757, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/706,579 entitled "DEVICE AND METHOD FOR SECURE DATA UPDATES IN A SELF-CHECKOUT SYSTEM" and that issued October 20, 1998 as U.S. Patent No. 5,825,002, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. This application is also related to U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/780,023 entitled "INTRANET SCANNING TERMINAL SYSTEM" and that issued on July 4, 2000 as U.S. Patent No. 6,084,528.--

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--The information downloaded to the hand-held terminal can be presented in any number of forms. The data can be presented in the form of a still picture, text, audio or as video. As a result, a mechanic unknown to the manufacturer an open standard communications network and a generic hand terminal can download a video image of an engine part and a video clip for the part providing instructions on its removal and repair. The use of standard data protocols such as those used currently on the Internet permit wide area accessibility over commercial and closed communication networks on any number of hardware platforms.

A preferred alternative embodiment of the present invention includes machine readable coded labels having one or more remote file locations, such as uniform resource locators ("URLs") used to reference sites on the World Wide Web. These URLs are used by the portable terminal to retrieve data files including items such as prices, nutritional data, coupon availability, promotions, marketing data and general interest data from various local and remote addresses available over a wireless communication network.

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The machine coded labels are preferably encoded with a high-density bar code such as PDF417. These URLs can be presented on the terminal display in the form of a hyperlink that submits a data retrieval request to a remote address upon selection. The displayed hyperlink could be presented on the display as either a direct address (e.g., a URL) or a highlighted title for the address.--

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--Collection of data is preferably performed by a bar code scanner 75. Preferably the scanner will be able to read one and two-dimensional bar codes such as the ubiquitous UPC code and PDF 417 code. In an alternative embodiment of the present invention, the scanner is detachable from the terminal so that the terminal may be attached to a shopping cart with a shopping cart cradle and the scanner can be detached for use by the consumer. The scanner could be provided with either a short-range radio link and its own battery supply or a wired connection. In the event the products selected by the customer also bear electronic article surveillance (EAS) tags, the terminal may also be provided with a deactivation circuit which is activated when the product is scanned for purchase and deactivation prior to the product being delisted from the consumer's shopping list. The EAS tags are preferably used on a limited number of restricted sales items so that the EAS tags will be deactivated/activated only upon determination that the selected item is available for purchase by the customer at that specified time and place.--

B4 --The ergonomic design of the portable terminal shown in Figure 2 permits a consumer to use the terminal in either horizontal configuration along line A-A, or in a vertical configuration relative to line A-A. The terminal is provided with a reconfiguration key setting that permits the video system to automatically reconfigure its display to reflect the user's preference. The reconfiguration key 79A will automatically reconfigure the video display to change the display configuration from the first configuration, e.g., landscape, to a second configuration, e.g., portrait. The reconfiguration function permits a facility to connect the portable terminal to a fixed station in more than one arrangement. Thus, depending on space requirements, the portable terminal may be used as part of a kiosk to provide a fixed station for presenting pricing data, advertising and customer assistance.--

B5 --Figures 4 and 5 illustrate an alternative embodiment of a portable terminal of the present invention. In Figure 4, terminal 100 is provided with a display 110. The display is a partial CGA display having a multi-contact navigational pad 106 for scrolling through the full video image presented to the consumer. In addition, the terminal 100 is also provided with a scanner 120 for reading bar code labels 122, three input buttons 101, 102 and 103, a speaker 104 and a microphone 105. The portable terminal 100 is equipped with a radio 108 and rechargeable battery 107 inside the casing, shown in Figure 5. Also shown in Figure 5 are the main circuit board 111, the scan engine 120A, and battery recharging terminals 107A and 107B that are connected to a recharging circuit (not shown). A separate circuit board 109 is also shown for the optional telephony application. A battery overcharge protector circuit is also included but not shown.--